Supply of coal for power plants

1509. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power plants, getting National asset' like coal at subsidized rate, are linking their rate with subsidy for selling electricity to consumers;

(b) if so, whether it is left to the discretion of the power plant management or there are specific guidelines so that benefit percolates to the consumers; and

(c) the quantum of electricity being generated through coal for general consumers, apart from captive power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The tariff for sale of bulk power from the power projects to the utilities is regulated by the appropriate Electricity Regulatory Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. According to the regulations of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), cost of fuel is pass-through in energy charges. The benefit of subsidized cost of fuel (such as coal), if any, gets passed on to the beneficiaries, when the power is scheduled by the beneficiaries according to the scheduling procedure specified by the CERC in the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC).

(c) The quantum of electricity produced during the year 2008-09 (April, 2008 to November, 2008) from coal based stations (excluding captive power plants) was 307206 Million Units.

Allocation of power to Uttar Pradesh

1510. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power allocation under Central sector quota, based on Gadgil formula and envisaged in Electricity Act, 2003, has not been fully implemented in case of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) what share has been fixed for Uttar Pradesh in 1399 MW unallocated power due for northern region;

(c) what is the reason behind less allocation of power to the State; and

(d) what is the total shortfall in the State and how much allocation has been made under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The allocation of power from the Central Generating Stations (CGSs) to States/Union Territories is governed by a formula which is being treated as guideline from April, 2000, except in case of central sector dedicated power plants. At present, the share of Undivided Uttar Pradesh is 34.8% considering Central Plan Assistance Allocation & Energy Consumption for the year 2001-2006. This share is further divided between newly formed U.P. & Uttarakhand in the ratio of 84.75% & 15.25% respectively. Thus, the present share of U.P. works out to 29.5%.

(b) and (c) The allocation of unallocated power in Central Generating Stations, kept at the disposal of the Government, is made on a dynamic basis to meet the emergent and seasonal needs

of States and UTs. Out of 1399 MW of unallocated quota of Central Sector Generating Stations in Northern Region, Uttar Pradesh has been allocated 20-22% (280-308 MW) in different time slots of the day. This is one of the highest in Northern Region.

(d) During the current year (April to November, 2008), the energy and peak shortage in Uttar Pradesh was 18% and 22.3% respectively. Under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), 64 projects have been sanctioned to Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs.2719.51 crores and revised cost Rs.3526.98 crores. So far Rs.2920.26 crores has been released for implementation of these projects.

Cutting down power losses

1511. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken serious steps and made efforts to cut down losses of power in the country;

(b) whether the power losses and theft currently form 20-24 per cent of overall average;

(c) if so, whether the need to bring down these losses is an urgent economic imperative;

(d) whether the Ministry has taken various steps in this regard and had called a meeting of all concerned; and

(e) if so, what are the main decisions taken and what are the steps being considered to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The draft report on Performance of State Power Utilities for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 prepared by the Power Finance Corporation indicates that the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) Loss of the State Power Utilities at the national level for 2006-07 was 33.07% of the total energy available for sale.

Govt. of India had launched the flagship programme *viz.* Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in 2002-03 with the objective of encouraging reforms, reducing Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) loss, improving quality of supply of power and improving consumer satisfaction in the X Plan. The target was to reduce AT&C losses to 15% in five years to begin with in urban and high density consumption areas. AT&C loss has come down in towns where APDRP has been implemented. Further, some of the utilities which adopted various interventions as envisaged under the programme have shown significant reduction in AT&C loss. Under the programme, 571 projects were sanctioned covering approx. 906 towns in the country. At town level, AT&C losses have been brought below 20 percent in 215 APDRP towns in the country of which 163 towns have brought AT&C losses below 15 percent. However, according to draft report on Performance of State Power Utilities prepared by the Power Finance Corporation, the national AT&C loss levels were brought down from 36.64% in 2002-03 to 33.07% in 2006-07.